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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 11325 011438Z

13
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-06 /018 W
---------- 126026
R 011144Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7107

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 11325

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, NI
SUBJ: OGBE HARD COURT TENNIS TOURNAMENT

REF : STATE 242665

WE ARE PLEASED THAT THERE MAY BE ONE YOUNG LIVE PROSPECT FOR
AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN OGBE HARD COURT TENNIS TOURNAMENT IN
ADDITION TO ONE OR TWO FAST-AGING HAS-BEENS WHO MAY APPLY
FROM LAGOS FOR VETERANS CATEGORY.
DEPARTMENT WILL UNDERSTAND DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE IN GETTING THROUGH
TO BENIN CITY BY PHONE, CABLE OR POST, BUT WE WILL DO OUR BEST
TO CONFIRM THAT FISHBACK'S ENTRY HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED.
WE WILL ALSO CHECK ON AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE,
WHICH WE CONSIDER UNLIKELY. URGE FISHBACK NONETHELESS CONSIDER
COMPETING IN VIEW FOLLOWING SCHEDULE OF PRIZE MONEY: WINNER
FOUR THOUSAND NAIRA, RUNNER-UP TWO THOUSAND, SEMI-FINALIST
LOSERS SIX HUNDRED, AND QUARTER-FINALIST LOSERS THREE HUNDRED.
WE WILL TRY FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF NON-NIGERIAN COMPETITION
FISHBACK MIGHT FACE. AS NUMBER ONE AMATEUR ON EAST COAST US,
WE ESTIMATE HE SHOULD STAND UP WELL AGAINST BEST NIGERIAN TALENT.
HE MIGHT WISH TO CHECK THIS OUT WITH TULLY OR DEVEREUX. THERE
IS ALSO SUBSTANTIAL MONEY IN MENS AND MIXED DOUBLES IN EVENT
FISHBACK COULD PICK UP A PARTNER FROM AMONG OTHER PLAYERS.
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